

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 835

By Hawk

A RESOLUTION to recognize and honor Mr. Charles Baxter upon his induction into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially honor and commend those citizens who, through unwavering dedication and unflagging commitment to excellence, have distinguished themselves as educators, administrators, and coaches of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Charles Baxter, who has devoted many years to the education and instruction of young students and athletes; in March 2006, Mr. Baxter will be inducted into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association (TSSAA) Hall of Fame, a most befitting recognition of his outstanding service to Tennessee schools and athletics; and

WHEREAS, Charles Baxter was the Head Coach of Baseball at Unicoi County High School from 1975 to 1997, achieving a record of 591 wins against only 175 losses, a winning percentage of .772; and

WHEREAS, during his legendary baseball coaching career, Mr. Baxter won twelve Watauga Conference Championships, two Appalachian Conference Championships, fourteen District 1 AA Titles, fourteen Region 1 AA Titles, five Tennessee State Runners-Up Titles, and four Tennessee State Championships (1984, 1991, 1992, 1995); and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, Charles Baxter was named the Watauga Conference Coach of the Year from 1984-1995, the Appalachian Conference Coach of the Year in 1996 and 1997, the District 1 AA Coach of the Year from 1984-1997, the Tennessee All-State Coach of the Year in 1984, 1991, 1992, and 1995, the Super 22 Upper

East Tennessee Coach of the Year in 1988, 1989, 1992, 1995, and 1997, the Upper East Tennessee Coach of the Year in 1984 and 1986, and the Big Ten Co-Coach of the Year in 1983; and

WHEREAS, an estimable coach and exemplary role model, Charles Baxter was also Head Coach of Softball at Unicoi County High School from 1999-2003; and

WHEREAS, committing countless hours to the youth of Tennessee, Mr. Baxter achieved a record of 213 wins against 21 losses as Head Coach of Softball; he won five District 1 AA Titles, five Region 1 AA Titles, and the 2002 Tennessee State Softball Championship; and

WHEREAS, Charles Baxter was named Appalachian Conference Coach of the Year in 2000 and 2001, the Watauga Conference Coach of the Year in 2002 and 2003, the Tennessee Coach of the Year in 2002, and the Northeastern Tennessee Coach of the Year in 2003; and

WHEREAS, throughout his illustrious career, Charles Baxter has enjoyed the support of his loving wife, Phylis, and their marriage has been blessed with three wonderful children, Katie, Carrie, and Andy; Mr. and Mrs. Baxter are the proud grandparents of Candace; and

WHEREAS, Charles Baxter epitomizes the commitment and spirit that are characteristic of all true Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, for the above accomplishments, his impeccable moral standards, and impressive work ethic, Mr. Baxter has been selected for induction into the TSSAA Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Charles Baxter, a man of true character and commitment, exemplifies the type of selfless community servant and civic leader whom fellow Tennesseans admire for their tireless efforts in molding the State's youth, guiding them with solid principles and high standards both on the athletic fields and in the classroom; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we recognize and honor Charles Baxter upon his induction into the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Hall of Fame, commend his service to the youth of this great State, and wish him every success in all future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.